

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 1510

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FOR ANDREWS FROM THE AMBASSADOR

1. I TOOK RECENT OCCASION TO CLARIFY WITH GOTSEV THAT THE PROPOSED MLADENOV-VANCE MEETING IN SEPTEMBER WAS NOT FULLY AND FINALLY SET. HIMMIRSKY'S MESSAGE HAD APPARENTLY CONVEYED THE IMPRESSION THAT IF A MEETING IN NEW YORK WAS NOT POSSIBLE, ONE WOULD TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON. I REAFFIRMED THE SUPPORT OF THE EMBASSY AND EUR FOR SUCH A MEETING BUT STATED THAT THE SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE HAD NOT YET BEEN FIRMLY ARRANGED AND PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE FOR SOME TIME. FORMALLY, WE ARE OFF THE HOOK, SO TO SPEAK, FROM ANY MISREPRESENTATION HIMMIRSKY MAY HAVE CONVEYED, BUT I AM SURE MLADENOV IS COUNTING ON THE MEETING. I OF COURSE STRONGLY HOPE AND EXPECT THAT THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE.

2. CONSULTATIONS. ASSUMING THAT A VANCE-MLADENOV MEETING IN THE LAST WEEK OF SEPTEMBER IS LIKELY, I AM THINKING IN TERMS OF COMING BACK FOR CONSULTATIONS DURING THE LAST TWO WEEKS OF SEPTEMBER. IN ADDITION TO BEING AVAILABLE IN CONNECTION WITH A VANCE-MLADENOV MEETING, IT WILL HAVE BEEN A FULL YEAR SINCE I WAS IN WASHINGTON, AND THERE ARE
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A NUMBER OF THINGS I WOULD FIND IT USEFUL TO DO.

3. PAPAZOV. PLEASE TELL BILL LUERS THAT HIS LETTER FOR PAPAZOV AND THE EXTENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL MATERIALS HAVE ARRIVED. I HAD ARRANGED A MEETING WITH PAPAZOV FOR YESTERDAY, WHICH HAS HAD TO BE POSTPONED BECAUSE OF ILLNESS ON HIS PART, BUT I WILL BE SEEING HIM AS SOON AS HE IS

RECOVERED.

4. ACCOMMODATION EXCHANGE. PGEASE TELL BOTH LUERS AND LEIDEL THAT WOLFGANG FUCHS, THE RSO, HAS COMPLETED HIS LOOK AT ACCOMMODATION EXCHANGE AND RELTAED MATTERS, AND IS SUBMITTED A REPORT. FORTUNATELY, THERE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN NO MAJOR PROBLEM. ONE POINT WHICH NEEDED CLARIFICATION FOR SOME PEOPLE WAS THE IMPERMISSIBILITY OF A PRIVATE PREFERENTIAL EXCMANGE TRANSACTION WITH INDIVIDUALS AT OTHER FRIENDLY EMBASSIES. BUT EVERYONE NOWHCLEARLY UNDERSTANDS THE RULES (SUBJECT TO CLARIFICATION OF TWO POINTS NOTED BELOW). I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR CHECKING WITM DON LEIDEL ON THE FOLLOWING TWO SITUATIONS: (1) PERMISSIBILITX OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL USING OFFICIAL BULGARIAN EXCHANGE FACILITIES AT THE PREFERENTIAL TOURIST RATE IN CASES WHERE THIS IS OFFERED AND THERE IS NO MISREPRESENTATION OF THE EMBASSY EMPLOYEE'S STATUS; AND (2) LIMITED TRANS-ACTIONS BETWEEN EMBASSY PERSONNEL AND TDY OR OTHER EMBASSY-RELATED AMERICAN VISITORS WHO HAVE BEEN ACCORDED PREFERENTIAL RATES BY BULGARIAN EXCHANGE FACILITIES. ON THE FIRST OF THESE CATEGORIES, I SEE NO OBJECTION. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN AN EMBASSY EMPLOYEE IS TRAVELLING IN BULGARIA AND IS OFFERED THE PREFERENTIAL RATE I SEE NO REASON WHY HE SHOULD NOT ACCEPT IT. THE SECOND CATEGORY IS LESS CLEAR. THERE WOULD BE POTENTIAL FOR ABUSE IF EMBASSY PERSONNEL ASKED TDY VISITORS TO MAKE LARGE EXCHANGES FOR THEM. CONFIDENTIAL

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ON THE OTHER HAND, PERHAPS BELOW A SPECIFIED CEILING, IT WOULD SEEM REASONABLE TO ALLOW SOME EXCHANGES; FOR EXAMPLE, LIMITED CURRENCY BUY-BACKS FROM DEPARTING TDY EMPLOYEES, OF MEETING ANY SHARED EXPENSES. I WOULDHAPPRECIATE COMMENTS FORM DON OR OTHERS WHO MAY BE CONCERNED WITH THIS QUESTION SINCE WE SHOULD MAKE VERY CLEAR WHAT IS AND IS NOT PERMITTED.

5. CHANCERY SITE. WE PROMPTED A FURTHER MESSAGE ON THE QUESTION OF CHANCERY SITE ON JULY 3. WE HAVE SINCE BEEN SHOWN ONE SITE WITH A BUILDING WHICH HAS SOME PROMISE, BUT HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND HOPEFULLY ANOTHER OPTION BEFORE COMING IN WITH A MESSAGE. GARTHOFF

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